

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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O P 110443Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5807

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 521

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, FR, SO, FT

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON DJIBOUTI INCIDENT

1. AMB DE GUIRINGAUD CALLED US AFTERNOON FEBRUARY 10 TO ADVISE THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM PARIS AND WAS PREPARED TO MEET WITH HUSSEN IN PRESIDENT'S OFFICE. HE ASKED THAT A REPRESENTATIVE OF SC PRESIDENCY BE PRESENT, AND AMB BENNETT ATTENDED. IN THE SOMALI PARTY AT THE MEETING WAS SPECIAL ENVOY OSMAN.

2. FRENCH PERMREP DE GUIRINGAUD TOLD SOMALI PERMREP HUSSEN THAT FRANCE WAS NOT PRESSING FOR A MEETING IF SOMALIA FELT ONE WAS NOT NECESSARY BUT FRANCE RETAINED REQUEST IN CASE SOMALIA EXERCISED HER'S. DE GUIRINGAUD FELT IT WOULD DO NO GOOD FROM POINT OF VIEW OF BILATERAL RELATIONS TO HAVE A PUBLIC MEETING BUT, IF IT IS NECESSARY TO STRAIGHTEN OUT THE RECORD, FRANCE WAS READY TO DO SO.

3. HUSSEN REPLIED, NOTING THAT THERE WAS NOTHING NEW IN FRENCH
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POSITION: SOMALIA'S INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO REMAIN FIRM IN

FAVOR OF MEETING. NOT HAVING REQUESTED MEETING FEBRUARY 10 DID NOT MEAN SHE WOULD NOT REQUEST ONE AT ALL, SINCE REASONS FOR REQUEST REMAIN VALID AND SOMALIA WOULD NOTIFY SC PRESIDENT FEBRUARY 11 CONCERNING DESIRED TIMING. AMB BENNETT STATED THAT COUNCIL MEMBERS HAD FELT THAT SUCH BILATERAL MEETINGS AS TODAY'S WERE A GOOD IDEA, BUT THAT IF EITHER SIDE WISHED A MEETING ONE WOULD BE CALLED. DE GUIRINGAUD ADVISED THAT HE, TOO, WOULD BE ADVISING SC PRESIDENT FEBRUARY 11 CONCERNING HIS PLANS FOR REQUESTING MEETING. HUSSEN THEN ASKED WHETHER FRANCE WAS PROPOSING FORMALLY TO HAVE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. DE GUIRINGAUD REPLIED THAT FRENCH WOULD BE OPEN TO SUCH A PROPOSAL BUT THAT HE WAS NOT THE QUALIFIED PERSON: THE NORMAL CHANNEL WOULD BE THROUGH FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN MOGADISCIO OR SOMALI AMBASSADOR IN PARIS. HUSSEN REITERATED HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE NOT FLEXIBLE.

4. FOLLOWING MEETING, DE GUIRINGAUD RETURNED TO SC PRESIDENT'S OFFICE TO TELL AMB BENNETT THAT, IN HIS VIEW, SOMALIS OBVIOUSLY WANT AN APOLOGY BUT FRANCE IS NOT GOING TO GIVE ONE. FURTHER, FRANCE HAD INCRIMINATING AERIAL PHOTOS OF AREA, WHICH FRANCE WAS PREPARED TO SHOW DURING A COUNCIL MEETING. DE GUIRINGAUD CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT NO INSTRUCTIONS WOULD GO OUT TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN MOGADISCIO TO MAKE A FORMAL OFFER FOR NEGOTIATIONS.
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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